

Blue, Matt (NSD)

From: Blue, Matt (NSD)
Sent: Monday, January 4, 2021 2:02 PM
To: Donoghue, Richard (ODAG); Moran, John (ODAG); Sherwin, Michael (USADC)
Cc: Dickerson, Julie (NSD)
Subject: Jan 6 reporting

Current CTS intel summary. Contains investigative information, **please do not distribute outside of DOJ.**

Date of Information: 4 January 2021 13:45

The CTS Intelligence Team has limited threat reporting from government sources at this point.

The CTS assignments distro group received a report from th [REDACTED] [REDACTED] thru the ATAC Coordinator:

- [REDACTED]

Approximately 12 members have plans to travel to DC to protest Congress' receipt and approval of the Electoral College vote. So far, First Amendment protected activity, so no problem. However, they've claimed that they'll be carrying firearms, some saying for self-defense and others for affirmative use. FBI is investigating.

The SITE intelligence Group, which is an American NGO that tracks jihadist and white supremacist activity has produced several reports highlighting online rhetoric focused on the 6 Jan event. Some of the activity they are reporting includes:

- Wide ranging groups calling to attend a planned rally to be held in Washington DC on January 6.
- Users of an online forum threatening to attack left-wing protesters but also Democratic and Republic politicians and other government officials involved in the finalizing of the Electoral College vote count.
- Calls to occupy federal buildings.
- Users of an online forum discussing intimidating Congress and invading the capitol building.
- Users of an online forum assessed they have permission or justification to arm themselves and to engage in political violence at the event.
- Organizing of ridesharing and lodging for the event.
- Online comments urging the establishment of an armed encampment on the National Mall and the murder of Democrats and politicians.
- Online comments hoping for a civil war and a "shot heard around the world", in a reference to the beginnings of the American Revolution.

WUSA9, a local news site, is reporting:

- One of the websites used for organizing the event was encouraging attendees to bring guns.
- The District government has posted signs reminding members of the public and anyone attending the events that District law prohibits anyone from carrying a firearm within 1,000 feet of any First Amendment activity.

The Mayor of DC, Muriel Bowser, in a press release:

- Directed the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) to stand up the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) beginning Monday, January 4, to coordinate the response for the upcoming First Amendment demonstrations, permitted by the National Park Service, scheduled for January 5 - 6.
- Advised Washingtonians and those who live in the region to stay out of the downtown area on Tuesday and Wednesday and not to engage with demonstrators.
- Reminded protest attendees that carrying firearms at the event was a violation of District and Federal Laws, and that DC does not have concealed carry reciprocity.

Best,

Matt

Matthew F. Blue
Acting Chief
Counterterrorism Section
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530
202.353.3475